

**Table 2. Prescription Medicines<sup>a</sup>-Median and Mean Expenses per Person With Expense and Distribution of Expenses by Source of Payment: United States, 1997**

Population Characteristic	Population (in thousands)	Percent with expense	Per person with an expense		Total Expenses (in millions)	Percent distribution of total expenses by source of payment				
			Median	Mean		Out of pocket	Private insurance <sup>b</sup>	Medicare	Medicaid	Other <sup>c</sup>
<b>Total</b>	271,279	62.1	122	429	72,254	47.2	36.3	3.6	10.4	2.4
<b>Age in years</b>										
Under 65	237,093	58.7	90	347	48,198	41.3	44.0	1.0	11.7	2.0
Under 6	23,791	61.3	39	85	1,236	41.1	38.4	0.1*	19.8	0.6*
6-17	48,127	48.2	44	142	3,296	37.7	43.2	0.0*	18.2	0.8
18-44	108,879	55.9	85	291	17,713	41.8	42.9	0.4*	13.5	1.3
45-64	56,295	71.8	272	642	25,953	41.4	45.1	1.5	9.2	2.7
65 and over	34,185	86.0	507	819	24,056	59.0	20.9	9.0	7.9	3.3
<b>Sex</b>										
Male	132,605	55.0	94	400	29,117	44.7	38.2	3.9	8.9	4.3
Female	138,673	68.9	146	451	43,137	48.9	35.0	3.4	11.5	1.2
<b>Race/ethnicity</b>										
White and Other	206,082	65.5	142	459	61,983	47.4	38.3	3.4	8.4	2.4
Black	34,086	53.0	79	333	6,017	46.0	24.3	3.9	22.9	2.8
Hispanic	31,111	49.9	62	274	4,255	45.0	23.8	6.4	21.8	3.1*
<b>Health insurance status<sup>d</sup></b>										
<65, Any private	176,046	61.6	97	340	36,881	40.0	57.5	0.6*	1.1	0.7
<65, Public only	27,743	62.2	82	475	8,195	29.3	0.0*	2.8	63.7	4.3
<65, Uninsured	33,304	40.2	59	233	3,122	88.4	0.0*	0.0*	0.0*	11.6
65+, Medicare only	8,550	81.7	476	716	5,003	78.5	0.0*	15.0	0.4*	6.2
65+, Medicare and private	22,028	88.0	509	839	16,257	57.8	30.9	7.4	2.0	1.9
65+, Medicare and other public	3,434	85.6	604	945	2,777	30.4	0.0*	7.5	56.0	6.1*
65+, Missing	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>Poverty status<sup>e</sup></b>										
Negative or Poor	36,415	58.3	97	461	9,790	43.7	12.4	2.8	39.5	1.6
Near-poor	12,233	60.4	130	481	3,555	50.2	16.7	3.0	24.8	5.3
Low income	38,723	57.8	119	429	9,610	57.8	20.7	5.6	12.5	3.4
Middle income	89,981	62.2	116	426	23,810	47.9	40.2	4.1	5.4	2.5
High income	93,926	65.5	138	414	25,488	43.5	50.5	2.8	1.2	2.0
<b>Metropolitan statistical area (MSA)</b>										
MSA	215,782	61.4	116	412	54,551	45.6	38.6	4.0	9.5	2.3
Non-MSA	52,621	65.1	145	479	16,406	52.4	29.7	2.0	13.2	2.8
Missing	2,876	63.9	316	706	1,298	49.2	25.0	7.6*	15.3*	3.0*
<b>Census Region</b>										
Northeast	52,394	59.6	134	446	13,934	45.0	34.7	4.8	12.9	2.5
Midwest	63,090	64.4	126	464	18,842	45.3	40.5	2.0	10.0	2.3
South	94,929	63.6	135	437	26,370	51.2	33.5	2.8	10.1	2.4
West	60,865	59.6	96	362	13,108	44.1	37.7	6.5	9.2	2.6

**Table 2. Standard Errors for Prescription Medicines<sup>a</sup>-Median and Mean Expenses per Person With Expense and Distribution of Expenses by Source of Payment: United States, 1997**

Population Characteristic	Population (in thousands)	Percent with expense	Per person with an expense		Total Expenses (in millions)	Percent distribution of total expenses by source of payment				
			Median	Mean		Out of pocket	Private insurance <sup>b</sup>	Medicare	Medicaid	Other <sup>c</sup>
<b>Total</b>	†	0.4	3	9	2,042	0.7	0.9	0.3	0.6	0.3
<b>Age in years</b>										
Under 65	†	0.5	2	8	1,541	0.8	1.0	0.2	0.7	0.3
Under 6	†	1.2	2	6	92	1.8	2.6	0.0*	2.2	0.2*
6-17	†	0.8	2	10	241	2.4	2.8	0.0*	3.3	0.2
18-44	†	0.6	2	10	775	1.2	1.6	0.2*	1.2	0.2
45-64	†	0.7	10	19	997	0.9	1.2	0.4	0.8	0.5
65 and over	†	0.8	19	22	1,018	1.3	1.4	0.7	0.7	0.5
<b>Sex</b>										
Male	†	0.6	3	13	1,108	1.0	1.2	0.4	0.7	0.6
Female	†	0.5	5	9	1,257	0.9	1.0	0.3	0.7	0.2
<b>Race/ethnicity</b>										
White and Other	†	0.5	5	10	1,964	0.8	1.0	0.3	0.6	0.3
Black	†	1.0	5	19	407	1.9	2.1	0.8	1.8	0.8
Hispanic	†	0.9	3	14	249	1.7	1.7	1.5	1.8	1.3*
<b>Health insurance status<sup>d</sup></b>										
<65, Any private	3,805	0.5	2	9	1,337	0.8	0.9	0.2*	0.2	0.1
<65, Public only	1,123	1.1	6	26	541	1.5	0.0*	0.7	1.9	1.0
<65, Uninsured	1,060	1.0	4	18	258	2.6	0.0*	0.0*	0.0*	2.6
65+, Medicare only	430	1.5	30	33	364	1.9	0.0*	1.7	0.2*	1.3
65+, Medicare and private	809	0.9	23	30	876	1.7	1.8	0.8	0.5	0.4
65+, Medicare and other public	228	2.3	67	53	243	2.0	0.0*	1.9	3.1	1.9*
65+, Missing	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>Poverty status<sup>e</sup></b>										
Negative or Poor	†	1.0	8	23	579	1.9	1.5	0.5	2.2	0.3
Near-poor	†	1.8	15	32	286	2.3	2.0	0.7	2.6	1.3
Low income	†	0.9	8	18	524	1.8	1.6	0.9	1.6	0.6
Middle income	†	0.7	5	16	1,060	1.3	1.5	0.5	0.7	0.5
High income	†	0.7	6	13	1,058	1.1	1.1	0.4	0.3	0.5
<b>Metropolitan statistical area (MSA)</b>										
MSA	†	0.5	3	9	1,577	0.8	0.9	0.3	0.6	0.3
Non-MSA	†	0.8	12	24	1,232	1.7	1.8	0.5	1.4	0.5
Missing	†	3.3	53	92	215	4.4	6.9	2.8*	4.7*	1.2*
<b>Census Region</b>										
Northeast	†	1.0	9	22	862	1.4	2.0	0.7	1.3	0.6
Midwest	†	0.8	8	20	999	1.4	1.7	0.3	1.2	0.6
South	†	0.7	6	15	1,325	1.3	1.5	0.4	0.9	0.4
West	†	0.8	5	15	785	1.4	1.4	0.8	1.0	0.5

<sup>a</sup> Expenses for all prescribed medicines initially purchased or otherwise obtained during the year, as well as any refills, are included. Free samples are included in the estimate of percent of persons with any expense.

b Private insurance includes CHAMPUS and CHAMPVA (Armed-Forces-related coverage).

c Other includes other public programs such as Department of Veterans Affairs (except CHAMPVA); other Federal sources (Indian Health Service, military treatment facilities, and other care provided by the Federal Government); other State and local sources (community and neighborhood clinics, State and local health departments, and State programs other than Medicaid); and other public (Medicaid payments reported for persons who were not enrolled in the Medicaid program at any time during the year). Other also includes Worker's Compensation; other unclassified sources (e.g., automobile, homeowner's, liability, and other miscellaneous or unknown sources); and other private insurance (any type of private insurance payments reported for persons without private health insurance coverage during the year, as defined in MEPS).

d Uninsured refers to persons uninsured during the entire year. Public and private health insurance categories refer to individuals with public or private insurance at any time during the period; individuals with both public and private insurance and those with CHAMPUS or CHAMPVA (Armed-Forces-related coverage) are classified as having insurance.

e Poor refers to incomes below the Federal poverty line; near poor, over the poverty line through 125 percent of the poverty line; low income, over 125 percent through 200 percent of the poverty line; middle income, over 200 percent to 400 percent of the poverty line; and high income, over 400 percent of the poverty line.

† Standard error approximately zero because of poststratification to Census Bureau population control tables.

-- Less than 100 sample cases.

\* Relative standard error equal to or greater than 30%.